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§9.7–103.

- (a) The Department, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Labor, may approve up to six pilots.
  - (b) A pilot established under the Program shall:
    - (1) Operate from a fixed physical location;
    - (2) Enroll students who:
      - (i) Are 21 years old or older;
      - (ii) Do not have a high school diploma; and
- (iii) Did not complete the requirements for high school graduation through GED testing or a National External Diploma program;
  - (3) Enroll a maximum of 350 students;
  - (4) Offer wraparound services necessary for the adult learner; and
- (5) Grant a Maryland high school diploma on completion of the required course of study.
- (c) When considering whether to approve a pilot under this section, the Department and the Maryland Department of Labor shall:
- (1) Give priority to a pilot located in a county or geographic area located within a county that has a high school attainment rate that is lower than the State average high school attainment rate;
  - (2) Consider geographic diversity in locations for the pilots; and
- (3) Approve one pilot in a rural area for each two pilots approved in urban areas.
- (d) A pilot established under the Program is not a public school for public financing purposes under Title 5 of this article.

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